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Message Text

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12
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 USIA-15 COME-00 BIB-01 ACDA-10

DODE-00 PM-04 L-03 NASA-02 NSC-05 OES-06 /078 W
---------- 017039
P R 092035Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4983
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 3092

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, BR
SUBJECT: PRES. GEISEL APPROVES DOMESTIC COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE PROJECT

REF: BRASILIA 2526

1. BRAZILIAN PRESS REPORTED ON APRIL 8 THAT MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS EUCLIDES QUANDT DE OLIVEIRA ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 7 THAT PRES. GEISEL HAD APPROVED PLANS FOR THE "BRAZILIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE SYSTEM." REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS WILL REPORTEDLY BE ISSUED IN MAY, BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTABLE UNTIL OCTOBER, AND FIRST CONTRACT (SPECIFICALLY FOR THE SATELLITE SEGMENT) SHOULD BE SIGNED IN JANUARY 1977. SCHEDULE CALLS FOR FIRST STATELLITE TO BE LAUNCHED FROM CAPE KENNEDY IN JUNE 1979 WITH ACTIVATION OF THE SYSTEM IN SEPTEMBER OF THAT YEAR.

2. REPORTED TOTAL INVESTMENT WILL BE US$133 MILLION PLUS 287 MILLION CRUZEIROS. AN ESTIMATE 80 PER CENT OF THE DOLLAR AMOUNT WILL REQUIRE FOREIGN FINANCING WHICH, ACCORDING TO QUANDT, WILL EVENTUALLY BE PAID FOR BY FUNDS GENERATED BY THE SATELLITE NETWORK. ACCORDING TO QUANDT, BRAZILIAN INDUSTRY WILL ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE GROUND STATION
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SEGMENT PROVIDING COMPONENTS AND SERVICES REPRESENTING

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30 PER CENT OF THE INVESTMENT REQUIRED FOR THIS SEG-
MENT. QUANDT ALSO EMPHASIZED THE VALUE OF THE TRANSFER
OF TECHNOLOGY, NOTING THAT BRAZILIAN TECHNICIANS WILL
PARTICIPATE IN ALL PHASES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYSTEM.

3. AS DESCRIBED BY QUANDT, THE SYSTEM WILL ALLOW THE
INCORPORATION OF THE CENTER-WEST AND AMAZON REGIONS INTO
THE "NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM." A TOTAL OF
95 CITIES WILL BE LINKED TO THE SYSTEM BY 44 GROUND
STATIONS. THE SATELLITE ITSELF WILL PROVIDE A CAPACITY
OF 3,756 CIRCUITS FOR TELEPHONE, TELEX, AND TELEVISION
AND ANOTHER 600 CIRCUITS FOR "NATIONAL SECURITY" USES.
CRIMMINS

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